

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAIR, PL, CVIS
SUBJECT: PAN AMERICAN CREW VISAS AND EMPLOYMENT OF POLES

REF: 76 WARSAW 7342

1. MR I. BOCWINSKI, PAN AMERICAN DIRECTOR FOR POLAND, CALLED AT THE EMBASSY ON JANUARY 14 TO DISCUSS THE GENERAL SUBJECT OF PAN AM'S OPERATIONS IN POLAND, PARTICULARLY CONCERNING THE EXISTING QUOTA ON CREW VISAS AND A NEW REQUEST FROM THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION THAT PAN AM SEEK THE APPROVAL OF THE WARSAW EMPLOYMENT AGENCY FOR THE HIRING OF POLISH EMPLOYEES.

2. BOCWINSKI SAID THAT OFFICERS IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION HAD TOLD HIM THEY HOPED TO RESOLVE THE QUESTION ON PAN AM CREW VISAS (REF) IF THEY COULD PERSUADE THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS TO ACCEPT INTERNATIONAL CREW CERTIFICATES. HE EXPLAINED THAT THESE CERTIFICATES COULD BE ISSUED BY PAN AM TO ALL ITS CREW MEMBERS AND COULD SERVE AS SUFFICIENT IDENTIFICATION IN LIEU OF PASS-PORTS AND VISAS. BOCWINSKI SAID THIS SOLUTION WOULD BE ACCEPTEABLE TO PAN AM IF IT COULD BE IMPLEMENTED AFTER A TWO-MONTH PERIOD WHICH THE AIRLINE WOULD NEED FOR ISSUING THE CERTIFICATES. HE ADDED THAT, ACCORDING TO THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION, SUCH CERTIFICATES COULD BE ISSUED IN
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ACCORDANCE WITH ANNEXES 1 AND 9 OF "THE CHICAGO CONVENTION". COMMENT WE ARE NOT FAMILIAR WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS CONVENTION, BUT HOPE THAT SUCH A PRACTICAL SOLUTION CAN BE FOUND. END COMMENT.

3. ON ANOTHER SUBJECT, BOCWINSKI LEFT THE CHARGE COPIES OF A LETTER FROM THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION ASKING THAT THE EMPLOY-

MENT OF ALL POLISH CITIZENS BE REGISTERED AND CLEARED WITH THE WARSAW EMPLOYMENT AGENCY. BOCWINSKI SAID ALL FOREIGN AIRLINES OPERATING IN POLAND HAD BEEN GIVEN SIMILAR REQUESTS. HE WAS NOT HAPPY WITH THIS NEW REQUIREMENT, ALTHOUGH HE REALIZES THAT ALL OFFICES OF FOREIGN COMPANIES IN POLAND MUST COMPLY WITH THIS PROCEDURE. BOCWINSKI ASKED IF THIS REGULATION WOULD NOT APPLY IF POLAND HAD ENTERED INTO TREATY OBLIGATIONS WHICH HAD CONTRARY PROVISION. WE TOLD HIM OUR BILATERAL AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT (ARTICLE 5) SEEMS TO PROVIDE ONLY THAT THE LAWS AND REGULATIONS OF POLAND BE FOLLOWED WITH RESPECT TO THIS QUESTION. WE AGREED, HOWEVER, TO ASK THE DEPARTMENT IF THERE ARE PROVISIONS IN ANY OTHER AVIATION AGREEMENTS TO WHICH POLAND MAY BE A PARTY WHICH WOULD PRECLUDE SUCH CLEARANCE BEFORE HIRING OF POLISH NATIONALS.

4. BOCWINSKI ALSO REPORTED THAT AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED WITH THE U.S. AND POLISH POSTAL SERVICES ON AIR TRANSPORT OF MAIL BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. LOT WOULD BEGIN CARRYING U.S.-ORIGIN MAIL IN JANUARY AND PAN AM WOULD CONCLUDE ARRANGEMENTS DURING THE WEEK OF JANUARY 24 TO CARRY POLISH-ORIGIN MAIL.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE ADVISE WHETHER THERE ARE ANY PERTINENT INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS AS MENTIONED IN PARAGRAPH 3 ABOVE.
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